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USSR PETROLEUM INDUSTRY REPORTS FULFILLMENT OF 1951 PLAN

V. Kalamkarov
Dep Min of Petroleum Ind USSR

On 28 December, enterprises of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry completed the 1951 plan for petroleum extraction, and for the production of light-colored petroleum products and lubricating oils. In the remaining days before the new year they will deliver to the country hundreds of thousands of tons of petroleum and petroleum products.

First places in the competition were held by Bashneft', Tatneft', Kuybyshevneft', Krasnodarneft', Kazakhstanneft', Saratovneft', and Molotovneft' workers. Azmorneft', Grozneft', Turkmenneft', Ukrneft', Gruzneft', and Buguruslanneft' workers also completed the plan ahead of schedule.

In 1951, the petroleum output was millions of tons greater than in 1950. The eastern regions played a particularly important part in this increase.

Secondary methods of extraction are being adopted widely in old deposits, and methods to maintain pressure are being employed increasingly in new deposits. As a result, deposits are worked more efficiently and more economically.

A great role in the increased petroleum output was also played by changes in the deep-well pump method, the use of inserted entire pump attached to sucker rod/ deep-well pumps, and heavy pumping jacks. New work methods make it possible to extract petroleum from a depth of more than 2,000 meters and to utilize equipment to better advantage. As a result of geological and surveying work in 1951, rich petroleum deposits were discovered in new areas, and the explored, industrial petroleum reserves were greatly increased.

The forced method of drilling oil wells has been adopted widely, and the importance of the turbodrilling method has increased. This method considerably accelerates the speed in drilling oil wells, particularly in the off-shore deposits of Azerbaydzhan and in the eastern regions where the hardness of the rock makes drilling difficult.

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Workers in the petroleum refining industry achieved great success in 1951. The variety of petroleum products was increased and the quality improved by the adoption of new technological processes and technical improvements. The number of petroleum products derived from the crude petroleum increased, losses decreased, and consumption of fuel and reagents was curtailed. The Azerbaydzhan and Groznyy refineries and a number of others located in the eastern regions of the country fulfilled both the year plan and the additional obligations which they had assumed.

In 1951, the petroleum-refining industry acquired large new enterprises and installations which are all provided with USSR-made equipment and control and measuring instruments. The newly acquired capacity will assure a further growth in the amount of petroleum refining. The country will receive more high-quality petroleum products in a wide assortment.

In 1951, the gross production of machine-building enterprises of the petroleum industry rose 22 percent, and the volume of construction and installation work of organizations of the ministry was 24 percent higher than in 1950. The gas industry and enterprises for processing shale continued to develop, and work on the transport and sales of petroleum and petroleum products was improved. New, improved forms of work organization and methods of production in drilling, extracting, and refining were originated and spread in the petroleum industry in 1951.

Petroleum workers are improving their technical and economic indexes, increasing labor productivity, and lowering production costs. In 1951, the output per worker for extracting and refining petroleum was 102 percent of the quota, an 8-percent increase over 1950. In construction the output per worker amounted to 106 percent of the quota, an 18-percent increase over 1950.

Many thousands of workers in the petroleum industry have been awarded orders and medals of the Soviet Union, and in 1951 awards amounting to hundreds of millions of rubles were made to workers for years of service.

Successes achieved by the petroleum industry should not divert attention from the existing defects. Elimination of these defects will permit the acceleration of an even greater development of the petroleum industry. Many drilling offices, oil fields, plants, and construction administrations are not fulfilling their quotas. There are serious defects in the drilling of oil wells. Considerable idle spells are tolerated. The established rate of speed is not achieved everywhere. Material and technical capacities are not always properly exploited. Some refineries and oil fields are not fulfilling their quotas for assortment of products. Losses are tolerated from repeated repair of the wells. The plan for restoring inactive wells to activity is not being fulfilled everywhere. Mechanization is not being introduced adequately in the case of some construction. The most speedy elimination of these defects is the most important condition for the successful work of petroleum workers in 1952.

The plan for the growth of the petroleum industry of the USSR in 1952 puts before the petroleum workers the following important tasks: additional increase in petroleum extraction and in the production of petroleum products; greater volume in the drilling of oil and gas wells; exploitation of new productive capacities in all branches of the petroleum industry.

In 1952, petroleum workers will achieve an increase in labor productivity, improvement in the quality and reduction in the costs of production, observance of strict economy in the consumption of raw materials, fuel, and electric power, and the introduction of outstanding techniques and the results of experiences of innovators. They must accelerate the speed of construction and putting into operation of new refineries, oil fields, and pipelines, as well as housing and public buildings.

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